

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-11 /087 W

----- 120794

R 171639Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7713

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 0861

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MO AO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN RECOGNITION OF MPLA

REF: RABAT 0833 (NOTAL)

1. GOM PUBLISHED COMMUNIQUE EVENING FEB 13 FORMALLY ANNOUNCING RECOGNITION MPLA. COMMUNIQUE PATTED GOM ON BACK FOR CONTRIBUTING TO "BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT" OF ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. DEPLORING "TRAGEDY" WHICH HAS BEFALLEN ANGOLA SINCE ITS INDEPENDENCE GOM NOTED THAT IT HAD JOINED OTHER COUNTRIES AT ADDIS IN JANUARY IN TRYING TO FIND "JUST AND EQUITABLE AFRICAN SOLUTION" TO PROBLEM. COMMUNIQUE WENT ON TO STATE THAT MPLA NOW, HOWEVER, EXERCISING AUTHORITY OVER "MAJOR PART OF TERRITORY." ENDED BY CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF DR. NETO TO REESTABLISH HARMONY BETWEEN THE ANGOLAN POPULATIONS.

2. FONOFF SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF FEB 13 THAT GOM HAD INFORMATION THAT FRENCH RECOGNITION OF MPLA WAS IMMINENT.

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3. COMMENT: WHILE GROUNDSWELL IN FAVOR OF MPLA RECOGNITION AND MPLA'S SUCCESS ON GROUND OBVIOUSLY FACTORS IN GOM DECISION IT LIKELY THAT GOM'S TIMING GOVERNED AS MUCH AS ANYTHING BY UPCOMING OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING. FONMIN LARAKI WILL BE ATTENDING WHAT GOM EXPECTS TO BE DIFFICULT SESSION DURING WHICH ALGERIANS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN NEW FORMS OF RECOGNITION FOR POLISARIO. GOM WILL BE SEEKING AS MUCH BACKING AS POSSIBLE ON THIS, ITS MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE, AND WOULD CLEARLY NOT WISH TO ALIENATE POTENTIAL SUPPORTERS FOR A LOSING CAUSE.
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